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Application of: WALKER, Brock  
Serial No.: 09/390,625  
Filed: September 7, 1999  
Reply to Office Action of March 13, 2006

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A portable sacral support positioned along an area where a seat back and a seat bottom meet, comprising:

a main body having ~~a bottom~~, a central portion, and adjacent side portions, ~~and a rear surface, the rear surface comprising:~~

a plurality of ~~spaced apart ramps and recesses that collectively provide~~ compressive support areas, one having a first compression value located at the central portion of the main body that is focused upon the sacrum and lesser compression ~~in a~~ release areas with compression values less than in the central position located adjacent each side of the ~~that~~ central portion ~~that applies less force on muscles adjacent the~~ sacrum.

2. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 1 wherein the main body is formed from a molded material plastic.

3. (Original) The sacral support of claim 2 wherein said main body is an integral one piece structure.

4. (Original) The sacral support of claim 1 wherein, the compressive support of said central portion is variable.

5. (Previously Presented) A portable sacral support, comprising:

a main body having a bottom, a central portion, adjacent side portions, and a rear surface, the rear surface comprising:

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a plurality of spaced apart ramps and recesses that collectively provide compressive support at the central portion of the main body that is focused upon the sacrum and lesser compression in a release area located adjacent each side of that central portion that applies less force on muscles adjacent the sacrum, wherein said central portion includes a recess and said support further includes one or more inserts of varying levels of compressibility that can fit into said recess and which is additive to the compressibility of said central portion when positioned within said recess.

6. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 1 further including a spacer member that interfits with said main body to provide an extension thereof so that sacral support can be provided where more space must be accommodated in the area between the seat back and seat bottom.

7. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 1 ~~6~~ wherein the compressive support of said central portion is variable.

8. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 1 ~~6~~ wherein said central portion includes a rearwardly facing recess and at least one said spacer includes an insert member that interfits within said recess.

9. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 8 ~~wherein said spacer further includes a second recess alignment with said central portion, and~~ said support further includes a plurality of one or more additional inserts, each having a different of varying levels of compressibility that can fit into said ~~second~~ recess and which is additive to the compressibility of said central portion ~~position~~ when the ~~such an additional~~ insert is positioned within said ~~second~~ recess.

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10. (Original) The sacral support as in claim 5 wherein said inserts have an inverted tear drop shape.

11. (Original) The sacral support as in claim 5 wherein said inserts have a ramp member positioned adjacent a bottom portion.

12. (Original) The sacral support of claim 5 wherein said inserts have density values ranging from about 2lb./cu.ft. to about 30 lb./cu.ft.

13. (Original) The sacral support of claim 5 wherein said inserts have density values ranging from about 10 lb./cu. ft. to about 25 lb./cu.ft.

14. Canceled.

15. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 1 further including an end portions that at each of two opposed ends located outwardly from the central and adjacent side portions, each of which include at least one thickened area.

16. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 1 further including end portions that extend beyond said adjacent side portions ~~central portion~~ and provide additional support and aid in forming a said release area adjacent each side of the central portion.

17. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 16 further including a bottom area and wherein a flex gate is provided adjacent said bottom area between said central portion and each of said end portions.

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18. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 17 wherein said flex gate is at least, in part, unconnected to said main body.

19. (Original) The sacral support of claim 1 further including a plurality of dimples spaced across at least a portion of a front surface of said main body.

20. (Original) The sacral support of claim 1 further including a plurality of through holes extending through at least portions of said main body.

21. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 1 wherein said central portion further includes a rearwardly protruding lower portion.

22. Canceled.

23. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 1 further including a bottom having ~~wherein said bottom has~~ a rear portion that is angled with respect to a front position.

24. (Original) The sacral support of claim 1 wherein said main body includes a curved front surface.

25. (Currently Amended) The sacral support as in claim 2 wherein said material ~~plastic~~ comprises a durable polyurethane foam.

26. (Currently Amended) The sacral support of claim 25 wherein the polyurethane foam is a self-skinning foam.

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27. (Original) The sacral support of claim 5 wherein the central portion has a compressibility level that produces from about 2 psi to about 4 psi on the sacrum of the support user.

28. (Currently Amended) A portable sacrum support; for supporting the sacrum of a user seated in a seat with said support positioned in front of the back of seat and behind the user sacrum, said support comprising: a main body having front and rear surfaces, a bottom, provided with at least a central portion and an adjacent side portion on each side of the central portion that collectively provide compressive support, the central portion having a first level of compression, and areas of lesser compressive support in a release area located in each of the two adjacent side portions where less force is applied to muscles adjacent the sacrum including a recess therein; and at least one insert removably placed within said recess.

29. (Original) A portable sacrum support as in claim 28 wherein said support provides a force of about 2 psi to about 4 psi on the sacrum of the support user.

30. (Currently Amended) A portable sacrum support as in claim 28 wherein the central portion further includes a recess and further including a plurality of insert members that can be received in the recess, each insert having a different compression density value.

31. (Currently Amended) A portable sacrum support as in claim 30 wherein at least one of said plurality of insert members has a plurality of compression density values.

32. (Currently Amended) A portable sacral support for use along the area where a seat bottom and seat back meet, comprising: a main body having ~~a bottom~~,  
a central portion and end portions, said main body having first, and second and third compression areas, said first compression area having a first compression value and being centrally positioned to provide controlled force against a support user's sacrum, said second

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compression having a compression value less compression than said first compression value area and being positioned adjacent on each side of said first compression area and second compression areas, ~~and said third compression area~~ having a compression between that of said first and second compression areas.

33. (Original) A portable sacrum support as in claim 32 wherein said sacral support provides a force of about 2 psi to about 4 psi on the sacrum of the support user.

34. (New) A portable sacral support for use along the area where a seat bottom and seat back meet, comprising: a main body having,

a central portion and end portions, said main body having first and second compression areas, said first compression area having a first compression value in the central portion to provide controlled force against a support user's sacrum, said second compression area having a compression value less than said first compression value and being positioned adjacent each side of said first compression area.

35. (New) A portable sacrum support as in claim 34 wherein said sacral support provides a force of about 2 psi to about 4 psi on the sacrum of the support user.

36. (New) A portable sacrum support as in claim 34, further including a third compression area located adjacent each end portion and having a compression value between that of said first and second compression values.

37. (New) The portable sacrum support as in claim 28 wherein the central portion applies concentrated pressure on the sacrum while portions adjacent each side of the sacrum are nestled in the release areas.

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38. (New) A portable sacral support for supporting the sacrum of a user seated in a seat with said support positioned in front of the back of the seat and behind the user sacrum, said support comprising a main body having first, second and third compression areas at separate locations along the length of the support, said first compression area being centrally positioned on the support to provide a first amount of compression to thereby provide a controlled amount of force against a support user's sacrum when the user is in the seat, said second compression area being positioned adjacent each side of the first compression area and having less compression than said first compression area, said third compression area being positioned outwardly of each of the second compression areas and having an amount of compression between that of said first and second compression areas.

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